

Amendment and Response  
Applicants: Giovanni Rolando et al.  
Serial No.: 10/626,292

Attorney Docket: SBC1003USC3

Amendments to the Claims:

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A stent having a tubular body defining a longitudinal axis comprising:

first, second and third annular segments, each annular segment defining a substantially sinusoidal shape having a plurality of peaks and valleys, the second annular segment being positioned between the first and third annular segments, the first and third annular segments being in phase and the second annular segment being 180° out of phase with the first and third annular segments such that the peaks of the first annular segment extend toward the second annular segment and are aligned longitudinally with the valleys of the second annular segment and the peaks of the third annular segment;

first and second pluralities of bridge elements, the first annular segment being connected to the second annular segment by the first plurality of bridge elements and the second annular segment being connected to the third annular segment by the second plurality of bridge elements, each bridge element of the first plurality of bridge elements being connected between a valley of the first annular segment and a longitudinally adjacent peak of the second annular segment and each bridge element of the second plurality of bridge elements being connected between a peak of the second annular segment and a longitudinally adjacent valley of the third annular segment.

Amendment and Response  
Applicants: Giovanni Rolando et al.  
Serial No.: 10/626,292

Attorney Docket: SBC1003USC3

2. (Original) The stent of claim 1 wherein the second bridge elements are longitudinally offset with respect to the first bridge elements.
3. (Original) The stent of claim 1 wherein the second bridge elements are substantially shorter than the first bridge elements.
4. (Original) The stent of claim 1 wherein the annular segments have a length of about two millimeters.
5. (Original) The stent of claim 1 wherein the stent is comprised of a superelastic material.
6. (Original) The stent of claim 1 wherein the stent is comprised of a shape-memory material.
7. (Original) The stent of claim 1 wherein the stent is comprised of nitinol.
- 8 (New). A stent having a tubular body defining a longitudinal axis comprising:  
first, second and third annular segments, each annular segment defining a substantially sinusoidal shape having a plurality of peaks and valleys, the second annular segment being positioned between the first and third annular segments, the first and third annular segments being in phase and the second annular segment being 180° out of phase with the first and third annular segments such that the peaks of the first annular segment extend toward the second annular segment and are aligned longitudinally with the valleys of the second annular segment and the peaks of the third annular segment;

Amendment and Response  
Applicants: Giovanni Rolando et al.  
Serial No.: 10/626,292

Attorney Docket: SBC1003USC3

first and second pluralities of bridge elements, the first annular segment being connected to the second annular segment by the first plurality of bridge elements and the second annular segment being connected to the third annular segment by the second plurality of bridge elements, each bridge element of the first plurality of bridge elements being connected between a valley of the first annular segment and a longitudinally adjacent peak of the second annular segment and each bridge element of the second plurality of bridge elements being connected between a peak of the second annular segment and a longitudinally adjacent valley of the third annular segment, the second bridge elements being substantially shorter than the first bridge elements.

9 (New). The stent of claim 8 wherein the second bridge elements are longitudinally offset with respect to the first bridge elements.

10 (New). The stent of claim 8 wherein the annular segments have a length of about two millimeters.

11 (New). The stent of claim 8 wherein the stent is comprised of a superelastic material.

12 (New). The stent of claim 8 wherein the stent is comprised of a shape-memory material.

13 (New). The stent of claim 8 wherein the stent is comprised of nitinol.

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning  
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

## **BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ **BLACK BORDERS**
- ☐ **IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- ☐ **FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- ☐ **COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- ☐ **GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- ☐ **LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- ☐ **REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- ☐ **OTHER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.**